

MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
DECEMBER 14, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Scott, Sutphen, Block, Furlong
Staff: Jones, Silsby

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Scott at 7:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF November 9, 2011

MOTION: To approve the minutes of November 9, 2011

A typo was noted and will be corrected.

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously, as amended.

IV. NEW APPLICATIONS

1. Euro Trading Company, 0 Hazelnut Hill Road

Staff gave background information about the previously approved permit. The property is located at the end of a cul de sac on Hazelnut Hill Road.

Paul Biscuti, P.E. of DiCesare Bentley presented the application to develop an office building and a warehouse with a cooking school on this 9.5 acre parcel of land. The wetland delineation that was completed in 2002 was reviewed. Development will be upslope from the wetlands, stormwater runoff from the parking lot and a portion of the roof will be directed to a basin. The basin outlet is located adjacent to the wetlands, half of the roof stormwater will be infiltrated.

Relative to questions by the Agency, Biscuti explained about the proposed storm water treatment system. There is no public sewer and no public water on site. At this point in time, there are no plans to have a restaurant. The architect is aware that the floor drains are not allowed.

Concerns were raised about the proposed location of the warehouse. Staff would like an explanation as to why the warehouse is being proposed in the specified location.

A site walk was scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Tarasevich Mobile Home Park, 30 Tower Avenue, Show Cause Hearing

Attorney Rob Avena and Leona Tarasevich, property owner, were present for the Show Cause Hearing.

Staff reviewed maps and photographs that were handed out to the Agency. She explained about a complaint she received on 10-17-11 from the resident of trailer #2 who is concerned about boulders and fill being filled in the watercourse and wetlands. On 11-19-11, she visited the site, viewed the boulders, and took pictures. She pointed out that the pictures show boulders as well as trees and shrubs near the watercourse. The formal "Order", which was included in tonight's agenda packet, states that activity within 100 feet of the wetlands requires a wetland permit. Other specifics of the "Order" were given, such as a restoration plan and delineations by a soil scientist being required.

Staff reviewed the wetlands and watercourses that exist on the property from aerial photos taken in 1934, 1959, and 1969. The older photo shows undisturbed wetlands and watercourses. The 1959 and 1969 photos show that the watercourse had been channelized. She showed a map from the Web Soil Survey that shows wetlands on the property.

Attorney Rob Avena of Stonington stated that his client received the "Order" on 12-6-11. He spoke about the recent damage to the watercourse caused by Hurricane Irene and the work done to stabilize the area with boulders near the wetlands by Mrs. Tarasevich's son. There is no activity going on in the area presently. He would like to talk with the son, investigate the property and then come back to the IWA to determine whether a restoration plan would be needed or if a permit would be required. Photos showing storm damage were presented. He believes that some type of bank erosion occurred during the storm. Mrs. Tarasevich stated that some of the boulders that are in the water are from 20 to 30 years ago. Avena pointed out how different the second set of boulders look compared to the first set.

Staff explained that it doesn't look like they created a new stream bank; the boulders were placed on the edge of the watercourse. She added that channelization had been previously done. Avena suggested that the Agency visit the site. He is considering hiring a soil scientist to make a determination and will report back to the Agency.

A site walk was scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. Avena requested to be placed on the February 22, 2012 agenda.

MOTION: To continue the Show Cause Hearing until February 22, 2012

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

2. Report of Chair

Scott noted that a lot on Pequot Avenue has wetlands on two (2) sides, whereby it appears that they are being mowed. Staff will check into this. It was noted that several trees had previously been planted.

3. Report of Staff

Staff gave an update on the Crandall property remediation. She explained that all fill was to be removed from the areas by 12-15-11. Fill has only been removed from area 1. The Agency directed Staff to send a letter to Mr. Crandall noting the missed deadline.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

David Scott, Chairman
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Robin Silsby
Office Assistant II